(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether students belonging to the depressed classes and the students belonging to the Mahomedan community are granted the same fee concessions in H. H. the Maha Raja's College, Trivandrum?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) Mahomedans alone are allowed half-fee concession in His Highness the Maha Raja's College.

Employment of Excise Staff on the Frontier.

120. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the large Excise staff posted on the frontier is not specially intended to prevent malpractices in regard to toddy smuggling also?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Excise staff posted at the frontier is bound to discharge with equal alacrity all the duties devolving on it under the Abkari, Tobacco, Salt and Customs Regulations and Rules.

Abkari Regulation.

121. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any amendment to Section 28 of the Abkari Regulation has been recommended by the Excise Commissioner, and if so, when?

(*b*) In what stage is the question of amendment now?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No such recommendation has been made by the Excise Commissioner.

(*b*) In view of the answer to part (*a*) the question does not arise.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the member be pleased to say whether the Law Member did not promise during the discussion of the motion for the reduction of Sub-Inspectors that the question of the amendment of Section 28 of the Abkari Regulation was being considered.

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): He might have said so. I do not remember.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Does not Section 28 say that an Abkari Officer drawing a salary of Rs. 20 and above is entitled to search houses? Does not that Regulation authorise Petty Officers who draw Rs. 20 and above up to Rs. 28, numbering about 150, to search houses?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That is the law. That is Section 28. But a Petty Officer should be appointed as an Abkari Officer.

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[Mr. A. Hoogwerf.]

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): I want to know whether the law has been amended. I wish to know whether that Section of the law does not entitle a Petty Officer drawing Rs. 20 and above to search houses in the absence of an amendment of the Regulation.

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Petty Officers have to be empowered under the Regulation.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Can any notification override any departmental circular or the section of a regulation without its being amended in this Council.

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No.

Audit and Appropriation Report.

122. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether an annual Audit and Appropriation Report is being prepared in the Financial Secretariat, and if so, from what year?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to order:

(i) the reports for the years 1096 and 1097 being published in the Gazette at once and further reports being so published regularly as soon as they are prepared; and

(ii) copies of the same being supplied to the members of the Legislative Council?

(*c*) If no such report has been prepared till now, will the Government be pleased to order its preparation every year in future and its publication in the Gazette?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Financial Secretary to Government*): (*a*) A report called the Audit and Appropriation Report was prepared by the Account Officer in 1097, on the accounts of the year 1096 and was issued to Heads of Departments. Government having recently ordered the preparation of two reports, one called the Audit Report and the other the Appropriation Report, two separate reports have been prepared by the Account Officer on the accounts of 1097. The Appropriation Report has been printed. The Audit Report is in the Press.

(*b*) and (*c*) Government do not deem it necessary to publish the reports in the Gazette. Copies of the Appropriation Report relating to the accounts from 1097 have been supplied to the members of the Council.

College Admissions.

123. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of applicants during the current academic year, to each of the groups in the Intermediate and B. A. classes;

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